REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending in the present application.

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed April 15, 2002. In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 13-18 under 35 U.S.C. §112; and claims 1, 2, 4-8, 13, 14 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e). In addition, the Examiner indicated allowable subject matter for claims 3 and 9-12 if they are rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has cancelled claims 1-2, 7-8, and 13-14, and amended claims 3-6, 9-12, and 15-18. Applicant preserves the right to continue prosecuting the cancelled claims. Reconsideration in light of the amendments and remarks made herein is respectfully requested.

I.   REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 13-18 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Applicant has amended claim 15 to clarify the claim language.

II.   CLAIM OBJECTIONS

In the Office Action, claims 3 and 9-12 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant has amended claims 3 and 9 to include the limitations of claims 1-2 and 7-8, respectively. In addition, Applicant has amended claim 15 to include the limitations of claims 13-14. Applicant has also amended claims 4-6, 10-12, and 16-18 to correct claim dependencies.

Therefore, Applicant believes that newly amended independent claims 3, 9, and 15 and their respective dependent claims are distinguishable over the cited prior art references. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the rejections be withdrawn.

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS

The following is a set of all amended and cancelled claims.

1   1.   (CANCELLED) ~~A method to provide copy protection for a content, the~~

2   ~~method comprising:~~

3   ~~descrambling the content delivered by a content provider using a local key;~~

4   ~~generating the local key from a programmable user key according to an~~

5   ~~authorization code provided by the content provider.~~

1   2.   (CANCELLED) ~~The method of Claim 1 further comprising:~~

2   ~~receiving the authorization code via a communication channel.~~

1   3.   (AMENDED) ~~The method of Claim 2 wherein~~ <u>A method to provide copy</u>

2   <u>protection for a content, the method comprising:</u>

3   <u>descrambling the content delivered by a content provider using a local key;</u>

4   <u>generating the local key from a programmable user key according to an</u>

5   <u>authorization code provided by the content provider; and</u>

6   <u>receiving the authorization code via a communication channel,</u> the communication

7   channel ~~is~~ <u>being</u> one of a return path of a cable connection, a telephone connection, and a

8   network.

1   4.   (AMENDED) The method of Claim ~~1~~ <u>3</u> further comprising receiving the

2   user key from the content provider via the communication channel.

1   5.   (AMENDED) The method of Claim ~~1~~ <u>3</u> wherein the user key is provided

2   by a master CA device having the authorization code.

1   6.   (AMENDED) The method of Claim ~~1~~ <u>3</u> wherein the user key is embedded

2   in a medium embodying the content.

1   7.   (CANCELLED) ~~A conditional access (CA) device comprising:~~

2   ~~a descrambler to descramble a content delivered by a content provider using a local~~

3   ~~key;~~

4   ~~a key generator coupled to the descrambler to generate the local key from a user key~~

5   ~~according to an authorization code provided by the content provider.~~

1   8.   (CANCELLED) ~~The CA device of Claim 7 further comprising:~~

2   ~~a communication interface coupled to the key generator to receive the authorization~~

3   ~~code via a communication channel.~~

1   9.   (AMENDED) ~~The CA device of Claim 8 wherein~~ <u>A conditional access</u>

2   <u>(CA) device comprising:</u>

3   <u>a descrambler to descramble a content delivered by a content provider using a local</u>

4   <u>key;</u>

5   <u>a key generator coupled to the descrambler to generate the local key from a user key</u>

6   <u>according to an authorization code provided by the content provider; and</u>

7   <u>a communication interface coupled to the key generator to receive the authorization</u>

8   <u>code via a communication channel,</u> the communication channel ~~is~~ <u>being</u> one of a return

9   path of a cable connection, a telephone connection, and a network.

1   10.   (AMENDED) The CA device of Claim ~~7~~ <u>9</u> wherein the communication

2   interface further receives the user key from the content provider via the communication

3   channel.

1   11.   (AMENDED) The CA device of Claim ~~7~~ <u>9</u> wherein the user key is

2   provided by a master CA device having the authorization code.

1   12.   (AMENDED) The CA device of Claim ~~7~~ <u>9</u> wherein the user key is

2   embedded in a medium embodying the content.

1   13.   (CANCELLED) ~~A computer program product comprising:~~

2 ~~a computer usable medium having computer program code embodied therein to~~

3 ~~provide copy protection for a scrambled content, the computer program product having:~~

4 ~~computer readable program code for descrambling the content delivered by~~

5 ~~a content provider using a local key;~~

6 ~~computer readable program code for generating the local key from a~~

7 ~~programmable user key according to an authorization code provided by the content~~

8 ~~provider.~~

1 14. (CANCELLED) ~~The computer program product of Claim 1 further~~

2 ~~comprising:~~

3 ~~computer readable program code for receiving the authorization code via a~~

4 ~~communication channel.~~

1 15. (AMENDED) ~~The computer program product of Claim 2 wherein~~ <u>A</u>

2 <u>computer program product comprising:</u>

3 <u>a computer usable medium having computer program code embodied therein to</u>

4 <u>provide copy protection for a scrambled content, the computer program product having:</u>

5 <u>a first program code to descramble the content delivered by a content</u>

6 <u>provider using a local key;</u>

7 <u>a second program code to generate the local key from a programmable user</u>

8 <u>key according to an authorization code provided by the content provider; and</u>

9 <u>a third program code to receive the authorization code via a communication</u>

10 <u>channel,</u> the communication channel ~~is~~ <u>being</u> one of a return path of a cable

11 connection, a telephone connection, and a network.

1 16. (AMENDED) The computer program product of Claim ~~1~~ <u>15</u> further

2 comprising ~~computer readable~~ a fourth program code ~~for receiving~~ <u>to receive</u> the user key

3 from the content provider via the communication channel.

1 17. (AMENDED) The computer program product of Claim ~~1~~ <u>15</u> wherein the

2 user key is provided by a master CA device having the authorization code.

1   18.   (AMENDED) The computer program product of Claim ~~1~~ 15 wherein the

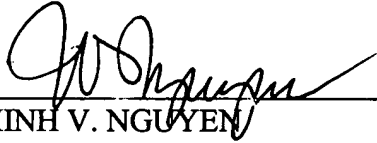2   user key is embedded in a medium embodying the content.

CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and remarks made above, it is respectfully submitted that the pending claims are in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on: July 15, 2002 .

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